

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2012 AT 9:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE NORMAN VOYLES, BRIAN GOSS, AND DON ADAMS. BRENDA ADAMS, COUNTY AUDITOR, DEB VERLEY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, AND PETE FOLEY, COUNTY ATTORNEY, WERE ALSO PRESENT.

NORMAN VOYLES ASKED FOR A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER.

NORMAN VOYLES CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

PUBLIC HEARING – PETITION TO VACATE

Norman Voyles stated that the Board had received a petition to vacate an alley in Eminence between Lots 5, 6, 7 and Lot 8. Mr. Voyles stated that the public notice advertising the hearing appeared in both the Mooresville and Martinsville papers. Mr. Voyles opened the public hearing. Pamela Siddons, attorney for the petitioner, stated that there is a garage on the alley that has been there since the 1950s. The property on each side of the alley is owned by the Estate of Virgil Melvin Altes. Ms. Siddons asked that the alley be vacated. Mr. Voyles asked if there were any other comments. There were none. Mr. Voyles declared the public hearing closed. Don Adams made a motion to approve the Ordinance Vacating an Alley in Jacob Surber's Addition, Adams Township, Morgan County, Indiana. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

POLLING LOCATION CHANGES

Peggy Mayfield, Morgan County Clerk, stated that after the primary both the Madison Township fire chief and the Mt. Gilead Church asked the election board about changing the polling locations for Madison 1 and Madison 2 from the fire station at Kitchen Road to the Mt. Gilead Church. Ms. Mayfield stated that among the problems with the fire station, (parking and safety) they do not have phone service. Brian Goss made a motion to change the polling location from the fire station to Mt. Gilead Church. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE REAL ESTATE

Pete Foley stated that this resolution cleans up the authorization to purchase properties that were purchased through a grant program from FEMA. The resolution also authorizes Kenny Hale as the agent of the Board of Commissioners to close the purchase of the properties. Each property purchase was authorized through the FEMA grant and contract and this is a separate stand-alone resolution. Brian Goss made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing Kenny Hale to Serve as Purchasing Agent for Certain Real Estate. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENT – NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Norman Voyles stated that in the past, the Board of Commissioners has appointed the hospital board members. With the new structure at the hospital, the Board of Commissioners now appoints a person to the nominating committee and the committee makes suggestions to the hospital board. Brian Goss is the current appointment to the board. Don Adams nominated Brian Goss for the nominating committee. Nomination seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0. Brian Goss abstained.

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Norman Voyles stated that Joanne Stuttgen, Morgan County Historical Society, requested a letter of support for a grant she is writing to improve the looks of a lot that is directly across the street from the post office. The grant would be for funds to plant trees or erect a brick wall on the lot to help cover the walls of the buildings. Don Adams stated that he supported the work that the group has done with the downtown Martinsville area and made a motion to submit a letter of support. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

EMPG GRANT SIGNATURES

Jeff Neal stated that for the last three years, the state has awarded the EMAs that score 50% or higher on the EMS assessment a bonus. This year the bonus was \$4,043.94. Mr. Neal stated that the extra funds would be used for the purchase of six iPads for the damage assessment team. If there is a disaster, the damages can be reported directly to the state without the need to fill out paperwork. Davey Skaggs was at the September 17th meeting to obtain signatures on the assessment documents (not the grant documents themselves). Brian Goss made a motion to approve the grant. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Neal stated that he applied through the National Weather Service to make Morgan County a storm ready community. This will save on property insurance costs for homeowners.

FALLEN OFFICER FUND

Norman Voyles stated that the Board established the Fallen Officer Fund with the Community Foundation. The County Council provided \$20,000 of seed money to start the fund. The Board has received a letter of request from Janice Starnes to receive funds from this fund. Mr. Voyles stated that it would not take long to deplete the fund and would like to see a higher balance before disbursing any monies. Kenny Hale stated that the seed money is currently the only amount in the fund. Don Adams stated that he would also like to see the fund grow before any disbursements. Mr. Hale stated that the Board of Commissioners makes recommendations, but the Community Foundation makes the final decision. Brian Goss suggested submitting a request for \$1,295 every other month instead of every month or half the amount every month so the fund won't decrease as quickly. In the meantime, maybe the fund will build up with donations. Brian Goss made a motion to suggest to the Community Foundation that half the requested amount be paid until the fund is built up or it runs out of money. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS

Don Adams made a motion to approve the claims totaling \$1,213,677.84 including a hold for \$191.97 pending a Council transfer. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

HIGHWAY / ENGINEER UPDATE

Larry Smith, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that crews have been dirt loading, mowing ditches, brush cutting, and patching.

Norman Voyles stated that he received a phone call regarding stone washing out of driveways and onto county roads. Mr. Smith stated that other than paving the driveways, all they can do is use the broom to sweep off the highway.

Installation of the structure on Cox Road should begin next week and it should take two to three weeks to complete.

SHERIFF / JAIL UPDATE

Sheriff Robert Downey reported that there are 307 inmates at the jail, 57 of which are female. Twelve inmates are on work release, 11 males and 1 female. There are 18 inmates on the jail corrections crew, 16 males, 2 females. There are 23 DOC inmates, 21 male and 2 female. There were 7,397 law enforcement calls for the year, and 12,237 CAD calls for the year. There have been several medical issues this year and they will need an additional appropriation before the end of the year.

COMMENTS

Gerry McGrath stated that there is a haunted trail on Conservation Club Road that is operating on Friday and Saturday nights from 8 pm till midnight, or until the last person leaves. Mr. McGrath lives a quarter of a mile from it and he can hear the noise even with his windows closed. There is a machine that makes noises like thunder, gunshots, chainsaws, screaming, and there is more traffic on the road. Mr. McGrath stated that this business does not belong in the area. There is an illegal sign on Conservation Club Road and he removed an illegal traffic control device on SR 252 and Conservation Club. The police have been out to the area twice.

Kelly Dodson, a resident in the area, stated that they live in the valley and the noise isn't the biggest issue for her and her family; it's the traffic, the lights in the driveway, and the disturbance the employees cause next to her house when they leave late at midnight or 1 am. Ms. Dodson asked how they could have this business in a residentially zoned area and why the noise ordinance isn't being enforced.

Kenny Hale stated that they are working through the operator's attorney and the county would require a variance or a rezone in order to operate the business. A cease and desist order has been issued, but they have not complied. No county permits have been issued. Mr. Hale stated that it looks like it will have to go to court. Discussion followed regarding the noise ordinance and an injunction regarding zoning ordinance regulations. Mr. Hale stated that they did get the permits that the state required but the state does not check the zoning use when they issue permits. The Board came to a consensus to request that the Planning and Zoning Commission address the issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Brian Goss made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Norman Voyles

Attest:

Brian Goss

Brenda Adams, Morgan Co. Auditor

Don Adams